

TOBACCO:

A

POEM.

IN

TWO BOOKS.

Translated from the

L A T I N

O F

RAPHAEL THORIUS.

The SECOND EDITION.

L O N D O N:

Sold by *J. Roberts*, in *Warwick Lane*; *J. Wyat*, in *St. Paul's Church-yard*; *S. Ballard*, in *Little-Britain*; *J. Downing*, in *Bartholomew-Close*; and *J. Noon*, near *Mercers-Chappel*.

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T O
Mrs. MARY OWEN.

M A D A M,



Confess a Poem on Tobacco is but an odd Present to a Lady ; but the herb being the principal ingredient we take in Snuff, the Praises of the one must infer those of the other ; so that, under that consideration, you may read the virtues of the *Indian* Plant, and make the subject less disagreeable to you.

The honor you have done me, in the perusal of some former pieces of mine ; and the favorable opinion you had of'em ; encourage me to present you with this Translation ; which, if it has the good fortune to merit your approbation, will fully recompense the pains I have taken in it. Your nice discoveries, and ingenious censures of many most notorious Misrepresentations in our Cele-

The DEDICATION.

brated Translators of the Greek and Latin Poets, have made me very careful to keep close to my Author's Meaning: and, though the Livelinets of his Images must needs fade in a Translation, I hope their Size and Proportion will appear (at least like Pictures on the Back-side of Tapestry) gay enough to strike the Fancy of thole, who are so unhappy, as not to be able to regale themselves with the Original: a piece applauded as the Draught of a Masterly Genius even by King *James* the First; though his Majesty had condescended to Satyrize the Plant, as a most pernicious Weed, with all the concern of a Prince, and licentiousness of a Poet.

The fear of being troublesome, obliges me, unwillingly, to confine my thoughts; and break off in time: lest the Many Extraordinary Accomplishments of my Fair Reader shou'd tempt me to expose my self, by pretending to celebrate them: but as such Embellishments shine but seldom in Your Sex, so they but rarely meet with a Genius in Ours, fit to describe'em. Appriz'd therefore of my own incapacity, with silent admiration, I subscribe myself,

M A D A M,

Your most Obedient,

Humble Servant,

Henry Player.



TOBACCO.

BOOK I.

I SING the potent Herb, and sweet repast;
 friend to the thought, and gratefull to the tast:
 with all the wonders of its cheering fumes;
 whilst, lengthning life, the leaf, in brittle tubes, consumes.

Thou, *GARTH*, whom Virtues grace with native worth,
 and Honors not inferior to thy birth;
 in whom, united, both appear more bright,
 and give a lustre to each other's light;
 befriend a Muse, who, destitute of fame,
 seeks honor, and protection from thy name:
 and thou, Great *BLACKMORE*, favor my design, 5
 in whom, Apollo's gifts, conspicuous, join;
 nor cou'd the God, to one, more fit, impart
 his Soothing numbers, and his Healing art.

Hail, heavenly Pipe! thy vapors bland inspire
 the brightest phantoms of poetic fire.
 without thy help, none can thy praise rehearse: 10
 exspiring thee, I dare the glorious verse.

Unknown, Tobacco, uselesse, grac'd the field;
 till Bacchus, first, its ample leaf reveal'd:
 when, by its strength refresh'd, the fainting God
 subdu'd the Indians, and its virtue show'd.
 by Bacchus taught, the wondring world grows wise;
 and all mankind the usefull herbage prize. 15

It chanc'd in summer, Bacchus, well aware,
 foresaw the enemy's deceit from far;
 whence, in close ambush, they design'd the war.
 incens'd, he bids his men his arms prepare,
 and join th'impetuous Lynces to his car:
 next, close behind, the stout Bassarian band,
 in ranks, obsequious, waits the God's command:
 the suttlers then, with all the heavy load,
 and implements of war, in waggons stow'd,
 bring up the rear: Silenus' trusty asfs,
 now lame with age, can scarce keep even pace.

20

But whilst the enraged army scours the plain,
 to seek what tents the enemy contain;
 and, weary, wanders o'er the desert soil:
 hunger and thirst augment their irksome toil.
 exhausted nerves no more their limbs sustain;
 and bending knees scarce prop the staggering train.
 no branching vine for their relief is nigh;
 and old Silenus' vessel too is dry:
 with hapless jolts from the dire waggon tost,
 open it lies, and all its liquor lost.

25

he sucks the scorching air, and gaping pants:
 even Bacchus, wine, his own dear blessing, wants.
 the Maenads, Satyrs, Soldiers, seek, around,
 for hidden springs, through all the neighboring ground:
 in vain: the earth its wonted streams withheld.
 at last, by sad necessity compell'd,
 each from himself a briny draught does take;
 a nauseous course his craving thirst to slake.
 and yet, even hence, they fail'd of a supply:
 themselves refreshment to themselves deny.
 hope too forsook them: all before them rise
 portentous prospects, and affrightfull cries.
 here, parch'd with direfull drought; some, gasping, lie:
 others, through wounds, their neighbours' wants supply;
 broach their own blood, and charitably die.

30

35

Thus droopt the army in the last despair;
 when, in a vale, behold a grove, from far,
 casts a thick shade. they doubt their failing eyes;
 but faintly fed 'em with a wild surprize.

then

then Bacchus cry'd aloud: Awhile let's stay,
 and every one his sad resolves delay.
 in yonder neighboring vales, I clearly see, 45
 for all our wants, a wisht-for remedy.
 thither, with all their might, they slowly hie;
 and now, in better hopes, refuse to die:
 they stop their veins, from whence the vital blood,
 with their dear souls, in streams impetuous flow'd.
 as they approach, the lofty Paetum-grove
 displays its ample leaves, and courts their love. 50
 the Chief, with joy, the heavenly blessing found;
 and to his vines its kindred virtue own'd:
 but the rash troop, impatient of delay,
 and deaf to what the God had still to say,
 panting with thirst, and eager for relief,
 cropt from its tender stalk the shady leaf;
 their parched mouths with the strange herbage fill'd;
 while through their teeth the greenish juice distill'd. 55
 but old Silenus, of its force aware,
 abstemious, us'd the offer'd food with care:
 himself secure, he, wary, waits to view
 its new effects on the wild heedless crew.
 nor was it long, ere the event declar'd
 the great mistake, that sage Silenus fear'd:
 from their weak stomachs now discharg'd, again
 it spreads its mangled leaf o'er all the plain. 60
 so, when with wine the drunkard is o'ercome,
 and his sick brain admits the dangerous fume;
 he spews the grosser dregs about the room.
 the world turns round; heaven seems to leave its sphere,
 and join the earth, to revel thro' the air:
 till sleep, at last, their heavy eye-lids seal'd;
 and, with a shew of death, bespread the field. 65
 the Satyrs, in loud snores, their sleep confess;
 whilst their huge limbs the middle space impress:
 the fierce Mimallons, stretcht, around them lay;
 and seem'd a wretched heap of lifeless clay.
 but, when, with wellcome sleep refresh'd, they woke; 70
 and from their breasts the drooping dullness shook:

through ev'ry vein the livelier spirits hye;
 and with new strength the waking host supply.
 with nerves new-strung, the cheerfull heroes rise;
 and glowing ardor sparkles in their eyes:
 with brandisht arms they wield the glittering spear;
 and call the absent troops to try the promis'd war.

75

Amaz'd at what he saw, Silenus, streight,
 own'd to his friends the secret hand of fate:
 Do not, said he, the heavenly gift despise;
 or view your succour with ungratefull eyes:
 confesse your chief; nor be asham'd to date
 your future life from this blest turn of fate;
 when heaven Tobacco first to Bacchus shew'd,
 and with fresh life your sinking souls renew'd.

80

for had the potent enemy alarm'd
 our fainting troops, by tort'ring thirst disarm'd;
 defenceless, and dismay'd, we'ad lost the day,
 to all their rage expos'd an easy prey:
 whilst the proud victors had the battel gain'd,
 boasting a conquest with their blood unstain'd.
 now, reforc'd, we wish him to appear;
 and try, on equal terms, the bloody war.

85

but yet, be cautious; and, if age be wise,
 for once, an old man's wary counsel prize:
 let each the heavenly gift, with reason, use;
 lest, else, he all its wondrous virtues lose.
 through the high stalk the crude consistence gives
 a banefull tincture to th'envenom'd leaves:
 forbear to chew: your spittle will diffuse
 pernicious ferments through the noxious juice.
 but, when 'tis dried, the venomous vapor flies;
 and healthfull fumes from leaves enkindled rise.

90

nor can I think the herb will ever give
 (if into nature's secrets we may dive)
 food for the belly: 'tis the brain it clears;
 and, with its subtle exhalations, cheers.
 wherefore your eager thoughts, not teeth, employ,
 with nicest search, its virtues to descry.

95

I'll first attempt; do you, whilst I declare
 what my mind dictates, with attention hear.

The

The well-dry'd leaves first crumble into seeds;
 and, with the fragments, fill your hollow reeds:
 then, with your lips, the adverse end embrace;
 100 and light them by the sun's collected rays:
 the circling clouds of the warm smoak admit,
 with expedition, to the seats of wit:
 its vinous spirits will refresh the brain,
 dispel the vapors, and revive the man.

He said: and, streight, the Satyrs all prepare
 105 to fashion the round tube, with wondrous care:
 some rub the brown dry leaves; others receive
 the dust in tubes, and good diversion give:
 through hast, forget the fire, they shou'd have took;
 and streams of dust, with mouths contracted, suck.
 streight, their faint spirits coughs convulsive chase;
 110 and the queer din made even Silenus laugh.
 no fire is near, now most its help they want;
 when, lo, the old sage, mov'd by their loud complaint,
 took a thick glass, he in his wallet had;
 which first was by the wife Prometheus made:
 (Prometheus, who to heaven did, erst, aspire;
 and stole from thence his animating fire)
 Here lies, says he, the hidden fire, you need;
 115 and shou'd the wonder-working glass with speed:
 from whose thin edge a small ascent did rise
 to the thick centre: this he soon applies
 to the sun-beams; through which the pointed rays
 light on the reed. the heat, by slow degrees
 advancing, spreads: whilst streams of smoak expire;
 the kindred signals of approaching fire.
 120

The Fauns and Satyrs the invention praise;
 and, on their backs, their Sire triumphant, raise.
 a lighted pipe, then, first, the Chieftain took;
 and in his mouth receiv'd the wondrous smoak:
 then, to explore its virtues, as it burns,
 through his sagacious nose the fumes returns.
 surpriz'd, its sudden sweetness he perceiv'd;
 125 which, with fresh force, his feeble limbs reliev'd.
 just such a je-ne-sçay-quoi in wine we feel,
 when genial draughts their mystic strength reveal.

sharp thirst, and pinching hunger now are fled;
 and straining vomits pain no more his head.
 only a dizziness misguides his feet;
 and on his forehead hangs a dewy sweat.
 unhurt, he yet rejoices still to find,
 when these go off, no worse ills behind.

130

Then, easy, and extended in the shade,
 by spacious leaves of lofty Paetum made,
 the lagging hours in lightsome talk he spends,
 to ease their burden, and amuse his friends:
 pleas'd, all the treasures of his mind he shows,
 the hidden stores of nature to disclose:
 how the bright orbs are rang'd in heavenly spheres;
 and what contexture human bodies rears;
 what wonders the earth's fruitfull womb contains,
 to list'ning crowds the jocund Sage explains:
 whilst from his tube the learned volumes rise,
 like odorous incense mounting to the skies.

135

140

The eager youth crowd round him, overjoy'd;
 with their new pipes, and fragrant fumes employ'd.
 but they, unskill'd to draw the vapors in,
 and send 'em through their nostrils back again,
 spew from their mouths the smoak; till coughs arise,
 and sportfull tears run trickling from their eyes.
 but, by his wise example taught, they strive
 to use their pipes alike, and equal clouds to give.
 when lo, whilst, thus reviv'd, the jovial train,
 in gamesome frolicks, frisk it o'er the plain;
 their long-expected carriages appear,
 with corn and wine, their necessary cheer.
 with eager shouts they rend the echoing sky;
 convert their pipes to instruments of joy;
 and, with choice cates, their craving stomachs cloy.
 they're pleas'd to see their carriages once more;
 and on their Chieftain's ass their wellcomes pour.
 then Ceres, first, her kind refreshments gives;
 and bounteous Bacchus their faint souls revives.
 they smoak, sing, dance, and revel; till black night,
 and heavy eye-lids, to soft sleep invite.

145

150

}

155

Soon

Soon as Aurora scatter'd the dull shade ; 160
 and warn'd of war the troops supinely laid :
 brisk Bacchus, and Silenus' hoary age,
 thus charg'd their spirits, and rowz'd their martial rage :
 Enough, my lads, enough of wine, and joy ;
 let blood, and battels, now, your thoughts employ : 165
 your ancient terrors, in your faces, wear ;
 and your dread arms, for instant fights, prepare.
 nor let your enemies the advantage gain
 o'er careless foldiers, stragling through the plain ;
 lest, unprepar'd, to their fell force you yield ;
 and, unreveng'd, fall foully in the field.
 my own experience has your valor try'd ; 170
 on which I always safely have rely'd :
 nor do my thoughts the least distrust declare,
 of what your souls, enur'd to battels, dare :
 but, 'tis not safe to slight a coward foe ;
 and walk secure through lands we do not know.
 though ye range fearless, where ye go beware ;
 lest old misfortunes shou'd renew your care : 175
 in close array well order'd let us move,
 with cordials furnisht from the Paetum-grove :
 your mouths with well-charg'd pipes profusely warm ;
 your hands with matches, and with touch-wood arm.
 thus shall your souls, ardent, to battels rise ;
 whilst clouds of smoak shall blacken all the skies,
 and, with portentous fears, your enemy surprisae. }
 act like your selves, and hope impartial fame
 will, with your deeds, eternalize your name.

He said ; they all, with shouts, his words approve ;
 fall in their ranks, and regularly move :
 their General, in the midst, the bonny God,
 high eminent on his lofty chariot, rode :
 with whom Silenus, on his shaggy ass, 185
 fir'd with ambition, kept an equal pace :
 not strong for war ; yet eloquent, and wise,
 in sudden dangers, safely to advise.
 drawn up in equal wings, the army stands,
 and wishes the approach of hostile bands :

when

when, streight, from the next hill's opponent height
bright spears advance, preluding to the fight.

190

Then boiling blood enflames their raging ire;
and drums, and trumpets, rowze their martial fire:
wine whets their spirits; their pipes their fears elude;
and clouds of smoak the scenes of death exclude:
black exhalations settle o'er their heads,
and from their nostrils flashing fire proceeds:
the clouds rowl o'er the plain in dreadful forms,
with lightnings fraught, and threat'ning thund'ring storms.

195

Amaz'd, the frighted Indians quake for fear;
not men, they deem'd, but devils did appear:
on such unequal terms the battel shun;
and dread with monsters to engage alone.

200

part sling their arms away, and frighted flee;
others implore the victor's clemency:
which he more willing, than they ask, does give;
their low submission takes, and bids them live.
his easy yoke upon their necks they weigh;
and patiently his mild behests obey.

205

yet their sad souls with shame and grief are tost,
to think what gross mistake their freedom lost;
that the thick smoak of burnt Tobacco, sent
from hollow tubes, shou'd so their fears augment.
but the blythe God a gentle sceptre sways;
their sad reflections sooths; their griefs allays;
his gracious love alike to all extends;
and no distinction makes 'twixt foes, and friends:
the self-same day beholds both armies joyn,
to fight with weapons, and to-feast with wine.
delicious draughts of gladd'ning fumes they quaff;
entranc'd, their herb's enthusiasms feel, and laugh:
its knowlege loss of freedom does repay,
chacing, with clouds, their cloudy cares away.

210

215

Tobacco thus to mortals Gods reveal'd,
long, by coy nature's frugal care, conceal'd.
now all its latent uses, Muse, explore;
and equal to its tow'ring virtues fear.

220

The

The leaf, by heaven's indulgence blest, contains
the various virtues of all herbs ; and reigns,
concest, the sovereign Panacea of the plains.

}

strong Hellebore, which, to purge the head, we use ;

225

and gentle Rhubarb, costiveness to loose :

the salutary Balm ; and sprightly Vine's ;

and sav'ry Beans, delicious to the swine :

with Bugloss, that, like sack, the mind does cheer ;

}

and Poppies, us'd, with sleep, to ease our care :

harmonious, and improv'd, are, all, found here.

heaven in this seed its wisdom shou'd to man :

which, though so small, such virtues does contain.

230

than finest sand it bears a lesser size,

escapes the fingers, and the keenest eyes :

yet, when adult, it spreads its leaf around,

with shady branches darkning all the ground ;

}

a certain cure to desperate ailments found.

but if the secret causes you wou'd know,

235

from whence these qualities, united, flow :

great pains and toil will thoughtful hours require ;

and your vain labor but augment desire.

whether the different kinds of salt do give

their various virtues to the wondrous leaf ;

or several qualities from one substance rise,

diversify'd by texture, age, and size ;

}

in nature's womb conceal'd, a secret lies.

yet, if you wander through the dubious mazo,

and all its windings, by examples, trace ;

the compound into elements dissolve ;

245

and, with due care, each separate part revolve :

at length, perhaps, the mind will, quiet, rest,

though not of truth, yet its near kin possess.

From savory things the relish man receives,

he owes to Salt, which taste, so different, gives.

this salt, divided, still two natures bears :

250

the one, by fire unmov'd, to earth adheres ;

therefore call'd Fixt : the other, by fire unbound,

flies upward with the fume, and scorns the ground ;

like soot, infects the summit of the still ;

255

hence, by philosophers, nam'd Volatil.

With

With these the earth's prolific bowels stor'd,
to inbred plants abundant food afford:
in various vessels, the nutritious juice
each kind receives, peculiar to its use.
from hence all fruit a different taste receives;
and every flower a various odor gives.

260

But, in her deepest chambers, earth enfolds
Sulphureous springs, and Nitre's bitter colds;
the baneful Arsenic; and Brimstone dire,
that bears a near alliance to the fire;
with Mercury, in air resolvable;
where also Copperas, binding Allom dwell,
and other Elements; which communicate
to every thing the taste, we love or hate.

265

Of these first principles, is Brimstone found,
predominant, in Tobacco to abound:

270

fat, acid, clammy, rank, instinct with fire,
with nitre sublimate, with soot the fumes expire.
who sees not, here, the wondrous plant display'd,
is void of sight, or reason's usefull aid:

275

which, if well-rubb'd, will, with its juice, defile
your clammy hands; and grease 'em o'er, like oil.
its binding moisture heals the greenest wound;
its salt old ulcers cleanses, that abound
with putrid filth, 'gainst gangrenes sovereign found.

}

its pungent taste the palate soon perceives;
where, quick diffus'd, a lasting heat it leaves.
its vigorous scent, when sickly fumes are spread,
in heavy dullness, o'er the crazy head,
from the thick lethargy the mind does cheer;
whilst wholesome sneezings the stop'd nostrils clear.
by fire set free, the salts do upwards tend;
and to the soul's high citadel ascend;
scour every avenue, through which they hie,
to feed the spirits with a fresh supply:
thence permeate the mazes of the brain;
scatter the mists; and re-erect the man.

285

290

Thrice happy plant! of ever-honor'd birth!
the gift of heaven! and glory of the earth!

the

the country Hindes, whom daily labors press,
 thy strengthning virtues do, with joy, confess.
 by thee reliev'd, they bear the want of food;
 and find their strength insensibly renew'd.
 Thy rays the wise illumin, and improve; 295
 and indigestion's clogging fumes remove.
 if their minds falter, spent by too much thought;
 and loose the fleet ideas, they had sought;
 whilst, uncontroll'd, utter oblivion rules,
 a shapеле's phantom, o'er their desert souls:
 soon as thy gratefull fumes are spread by fire; 300
 black vapors, and perplexing cares retire;
 invention brightens; and we, now, explore
 the mechanism of things, obscur'd before:
 well-order'd nature we again survey;
 and in our minds the bright ideas play. 305

Oft have I seen the Lawyer quake for fear,
 (dash't, ere he spoke before the crowded bar)
 the well-rang'd heads of his wise speech confuse;
 and all his matter, and his utterance lose. 310
 but, if he flies to Pactum for relief,
 the enkindled seeds their quick assistance give:
 his wandring thoughts return; his fears decay;
 and, by degrees, his soul regains her sway:
 then, unconcern'd, with spirits fresh refin'd,
 he wisely utters what he well design'd. 315

So two Logicians, singled out to fight,
 (whom lust of praise, or love of truth excite)
 with pointed words impetuously engage,
 and stretch the sinews of their learned rage.
 entangling quirks the subtle sophs devise;
 with which to foil his enemy each tries: 320
 or bravely his antagonist o'erthrow,
 with ponderous reasons pressing on his foe.
 around them, circling, crowd the youthfull bands;
 high eminent the umpire of the battel stands.
 their doubtful strength they equally admire;
 whilst frequent humms new arguments inspire.
 weary'd, at length, their ardent vigor's gone; 325
 and their faint efforts speak the battel done:

when

when lo, if one the sacred vapors taste,
 (as old Antaeus, when the earth he prest)
 fresh to the fight he rises; fierce affails
 the combatant, and o'er his feeble foe prevails. 330
 but if they both their spirits thus renew;
 and with warm words the wavering war pursue:
 with like advantage they maintain the fight;
 and the dark issue grows upon the night.
 unwilling they to cease the wordy war: 335
 till the tir'd judge decides the dubious jar;
 pausing for whom the laurel to prepare;
 when one can only have what both deserve to wear.

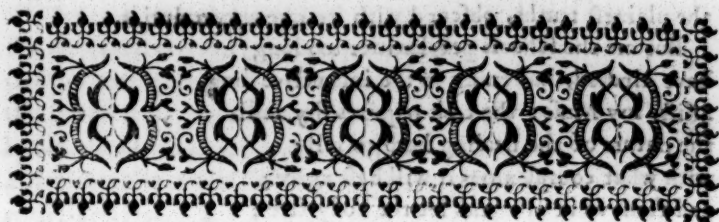
So, heretofore, of Æsculapius sprung,
 stout Podalyrius, and Machaon young,
 by Hercules egg'd on, in fierce contest, 340
 for India's plant their various thoughts exprest.
 the elder of the two, with shrewd disguise,
 condemns the herb, he inwardly does prize:
 'gainst whom the younger, fierce contending, goes;
 whilst, from his heart, his unfeign'd passion flows;
 and all his soul his honest words disclose. }
 the fumes, alternate, from the sprightly seed,
 in their big minds, sharp-pointed reasons breed.
 quick, from their tongues, the well-pois'd arguments fly,
 brandisht like javelins whizzing through the sky:
 this way, and that, they bend their clamorous course;
 whilst doubtfull fortune gives them equal force.
 nor is there in the battel any pause; 350
 but what the draughts of pleasant Pactum cause.
 by whose relief, their slacken'd nerves new-strung,
 the resolute heroes the debate prolong.
 with furious friendship each invades his foe;
 and brother fain his brother wou'd o'erthrow.
 till the King, pleas'd with the unusual war,
 by interposing, slackens its carriere;
 wisely their fierce contentions to assuage; 355
 and quell the vigor of their growing rage.
 so, by its force, did Pactum fall, and rise;
 and now its smoak provokes hostilities.

thus

thus frolick wit, and dazzling words, disguise
the plainest truths, obscur'd with strange uncertainties.

But me the schools perplexities too long
have hindred, hastening to the instructive song.
assist, my Muse: the task requires thy skill,
the nature of the healing herb to tell;
with what complexions it will best agree;
and from what ailments set the body free;
or what engender. this my Muse shall try;
soon as my medicinal pipe is dry;
and my brain furnisht with a fresh supply.





T O B A C C O.

B O O K II.

ENough, my Pipe, enough of purest air
I've suckt: my dawning thoughts begin to clear;
my fancy glows; and does her beams display,
in lively colours, to the rising day.

true to her word, my Muse shall pay the debt;
my Muse, too honest not the false to hate:
who ne'er design'd with empty smoak to fill
the world; and with a vain endeavor swell.
though now less fit Tobacco's force t' explore;
or, vigorous, with poetic raptures, soar.

old age draws near; old age the Muse's bane,
that pales the face; and clouds with cares the brain;
and bids me now, at ease, my labors past
review; and, in the heavenly herb, sing out my last.

Ye Muses, tell the laws, which Bacchus fram'd,
to humanize the savages he tam'd:
their minds to tillage how he turn'd from war;
and harmless Pactum made their wholesom fare:
and how Silenus merrily explain'd
the various virtues, which the herb contain'd.

Perhaps your verse may reach the Monarch's ear, [K. James I.
whom the fierce nations of the north revere:
who, from the Shades of your old fam'd resort,
translates you to the Splendors of his court.

if worthy such a patron be your verse,
though he, at present, the rank herb abhors;
yet, by your all-perfuming breath improv'd,
among his sweets he'll lay it up below'd.

As on his throne the royal victor sate,
no hard oppression urg'd his subjects fate:
each held his life, as his estate, secure;
whilst the kind God a gentle scepter bore.
who, as a Tyrant, wisht not to be fear'd;
nor dreaded those, who his just laws rever'd.
his condescension gain'd his people's love:
his clemency their morals did improve.
his sage instructions taught them how to live,
and reap the fruits, the labor'd earth shou'd give.

Their land, a savage race of monsters, marr'd;
the Lynx, the Wolf and nimble-footed Pard:
Tygers, and Lyons, rov'd about the plains,
to catch the grazing flocks, or straggling swains,
unheeded: for the men another care
employ'd, intent on blood, and mutual war.
with fire, and sword, to waste their neighbors' fields,
to their fell souls superior pleasure yields.

With grief the God their cruel gluttony sees;
and drowns their thirst of blood in love of peace:
resolves to travel through their desert soil,
benign; nor thinks it an unworthy toil,
their cruel chiefs to visit, sooth their hearts,
and sow their savage minds with liberal arts.

Attendants from his host he chose some few;
whose wit, and pleasant humor, well he knew:
yet whom of flowing cups too free an use,
an idle life, and a desire too loose,
had render'd impotent; but new supplies
of strength from Paetan spirits did arise,
mixt with pure air, and wholesom exercise.
the blythe companions of their Chieftain's care,
Amphorias, Balanus, and Neander were:
three merry blades. to whom three more were join'd,
by frolique nature sure for sport design'd.

Pelias one-ey'd ; sagacious Idmon, fam'd
 for a huge nose, with carbuncles inflam'd ;
 next Trullus, strangely fearing to be jeer'd
 for the thin honors of his shabby beard.
 behind them sily sauntering Aper mov'd,
 a pleasant fellow once, and once belov'd :
 but, by mischance, grown deaf, he mop'd, and mourn'd ;
 and, order'd home, unwillingly return'd.

50

Not far, in caverns vast, Haematoës reigns :
 than whom more fierce none ravages the plains,
 to feast on mangled limbs of captive swains.
 here coop'd in stalls plump youths, and children dwell :
 (but who the brutal butchery can tell ?)
 whose cumbrous corps, by fatt'ning pulse encreast,
 heighten the revels of a ravenous feast.
 hither advanc'd the train, with darts supply'd,
 and toils ; with each his beagle by his side :
 whilst the shrill horn invades the distant skies,
 in consort to the dogs' harmonious cries.
 hard by, the Tyrant's darksome Palace stood,
 dismal as grizly Pluto's dire abode ;
 with hideous jaws the gloomy entrance gap'd ;
 the walls with ghastly piles of bones were heap'd,
 which to the cieling their pale ranks uprear'd ;
 and, like a plat of Artichokes, appear'd,
 when through the stalk the genial marrow spreads ;
 and lifts aloft their horrid scaly heads.

60

65

It happen'd that the Lapithae prepar'd
 a sumptuous banquet, worthy their regard
 of their Chief's Birth-day : from the stalls are freed
 the fatted wretches, destin'd now to bleed ;
 when, at the noise the troop approaching made,
 plum'd with green boughs, tall Mulleus rais'd his head
 from the dark cave, the hubbub on the plain
 to see ; but, at the sight, quick drew it in again.
 a second, and a third, then came, to view
 the troop ; and to the cave's recesses, fearfull, flew ;
 forget, through haste, to barricade the door ;
 and make themselves against their foes secure.

70

Strait, through the horrors of the unknown place,
 with his stanch hound the frighted foes to trace,
 undaunted Idmon first advances: next
 the advent'rous youth, with mazy doubts perplext.
 through gloomy paths they pass; unless where light,
 from a small crevice, through the cavern's height,
 with a faint glimmering of the sunny day,
 revives their spirits, and directs their way.

'midst of the train proceeds the reverend Seer;
 the wary God is safest in the rear.

at length, conducted by rank steams, they come
 where noisy buslings warm a spacious room:
 in which a Kitchin's fearfull face is seen.

here, reeking cauldrons boil with heads of men;
 on hazel spits, there, brawny buttocks roast;
 and, at this fire, fat dripping shoulders toast.
 these monstrous cookeries are their women's care;
 who, round their waist, their tuckt-up garments wear.

Not far from hence, coop'd up like swine, there lay
 ten destin'd souls for some great holy-day,
 fast'ning for death; whom Bacchus, as he past,
 bewail'd in tears, whilst with his dog he trac'd
 the Tyrant out: close in his den immur'd
 he lay: whom thus the God with gentle words allur'd:
 Rise, Prince; and be accusom'd to the sight
 of your own race: We come not here to fight;
 or, with your deaths, to expiate your guilt:
 enough of blood already has been spilt.

your ancient rites our pitying hearts forgive;
 and, with compassion mov'd, we bid You live.
 if thirst of blood enflame your martial breasts,
 let your fierce rage be spent on savage beasts:
 drive, from your folds, the ravenous lyon, far:
 the spoiler punish; but your neighbors spare.
 to feed your selves with filthy viands scorn;
 nor think these trophies can your gates adorn.
 the wolf ne'er makes the weaker wolf his food;
 and tygers drink not fellow-tygers blood:
 the lyon, fiercest tyrant of the plains,
 to fat himself with lyon's flesh disdains.

cease then this banefull food ; from face of day
these fragments foul to earth's dark womb convey ;
and brutal appetites subdue to reason's sway.

To this the sullen Tyrant nought replies ;
but, muttering, sternly rolls his angry eyes ;
and, with reluctance, takes the God's advice.
he bids his timorous slaves obey. with speed
their food is chang'd ; and better cates succeed.
on their clean'd spits more sightly victuals broil,
with which kind chance rewards the huntsman's toil :
the stag, the wild duck, and the fearfull hare,
with the tusk't boar, make up the wellcome fare.

105

110

On the low ground, his seat, first, Bacchus takes ;
Silenus next ; the third Hematoës makes ;
(for time, too short, allows them not, with care,
for their new guests, a table to prepare)
then the blythe train, unceremonious, lies,
attendant on the God's bold enterprize :
the places left the savage pists possess.

115

then Bacchus, thus, their hero does address :
Blest by kind fortune, may you ne'er repine
that ere you join'd your faithfull hands with mine !

may this our contract surer still unite ;
and you abolish each inhuman rite ;
by gentle methods wisely learn to live ;
follow the good examples, which we give :
and you, my brother, as the effect of love,
our sudden visit, and free talk, approve !

120

this friendship may hereafter much avail ;
nor will your youth the benefit, then, bewail.
be this the pledge, than which no greater hope :
he says, and drinks of wine a brimming cup,
which, erst, the lofty Palm-tree had bestow'd ;
from whose cleft sides the pleasing liquor flow'd ;
and which, in well-fill'd bottles, near, was stow'd.

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Hematoës then (who us'd to quaff the blood,
that from the veins of wretched mortals flow'd)
down his foul paunch this sprightly nectar pour'd ;
and then, with windy belchings, beastly, roar'd.

130

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his nose stops Idmon ; Pelias snearing looks ;
 whom Bacchus, with a private nod, rebukes :
 then to Hematoës thus himself applies ;
 and, with kind words, allays his friends surprize :
 nobly perform'd, brave man ! well, how d'ye find
 this drink ? he grimly smil'd ; and utter'd thus his mind : 135
 from whatsoever throat it flow'd, 'tis good ;
 a beardless youth scarce yields us better blood :
 had I another draught, to taste again ;
 I wou'd not fear a brimming bowl to drain.
 'Tis at your service, Prince, but yet, beware,
 lest frequent cups your fame, or health impair :
 the strength you know not, which that blood does boast ; 140
 nor ever shall, till at some other's cost.
 but, ah ! how little do ye understand
 the rich productions of your native land !
 the tree, whose balmy bark, when wounded, pours
 this gratefull juice, supply'd by falling showers, 145
 with noble pride adorns each neighboring plain ;
 purchast, without or cost, or mighty pain.
 its limbs extended for your axes grow ;
 whence circling springs in endless tides will flow :
 then wisely turn to their first destin'd use,
 the various blessings, that your fields produce.
 nourisht by them, no more esteem it fit,
 or human blood to drink, or human flesh to eat ; 150
 or, serpent-like, in holes remote to lye,
 hid from the sun, and every human eye ;
 letting the light of nature in you dye. }
 your mien, and shape, and daring souls declare
 you're men ; nor are you cowards in the war :
 then, why d'ye choose, within this gloomy place,
 to hide these blessings, and obscure your race.
 scarce is your kind discern'd in this disguise ; 155
 in your large heads are sunk your heavy eyes :
 ill suits your colour with your savage food ;
 pale are your cheeks, although you're fed with blood :
 your sizeless features no distinction shows ;
 and your swolln cheeks rise even with your nose :

that

that bladder-like, a shapeless face appears ;
and from your temples drop the rotten hairs :
whilst putrid lips, and teeth, corrupted, show
the bad effects, that from such diet flow.

160

beneath your weight you sink ; with pain you live ;
and, as with burdens prest, your bosoms heave :
with tottering knees, and heavy steps you move ;
nor have for healthy viands any love :

but, on the ground, indulging sleep, delight
to' allay the surfeit of the former night.

165

these noisom plagues in these close caves are bred,
which no light cheers, or wholesome gales pervade :
or rather, sure, some just avenging God

has, o'er you, shook his pestilential rod ;

and, with your impious tables sore displeas'd,
your weaken'd limbs, with these sad ails, diseas'd.

even now, you suffer for your barbarous food,
and spew from your foul mouths the' infectious blood ;

170

that, thus advis'd, ye might these ills endure
no longer, without seeking for their cure :

but, neither, yet, your good, nor ill you've known ;
so blind to your own interest are you grown.

observe the smoak through this man's nose expire
from dust, enkindled by the seeds of fire ;

as, from a chimney, curling vapors rise ;

175

and, with black clouds, infect the purer skies.

this dust was once a plant, with ample leaves ;

which from a neighboring isle its name receives,

Tabaca call'd. there the fam'd blessing grows ;

a speedy remedy for all your woes.

do you (whose hairs are white with reverend age,
in nature's stores a well-experienc'd sage)

the various uses of the herb reveal ;

and, how to apply it right, vouchsafe to tell.

180

the health, they want, to these poor creatures give ;

and let them know, from you, what 'tis to live.

From his warm mouth his pipe Silenus took ;

and, turning to the God, thus, humbly, spoke :

Great's your command ; yet, willing, I obey ;

if, worthy of your ears, I ought can say.

185

but yet, ere I begin, my suit I make
to you, Hematoës: for my master's sake,
set, from your stalls, those sickly wretches, free;
whom, passing by, we did in fetters see:
and bless them, once again, with life, and liberty.

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The chief consents; and the poor souls, unbound,
creep slowly on, and doubled to the ground:
each, in his face, his sad misfortunes bears;
and, as his last, the day unwellcome, fears
to the great hall they're led, with looks obscene;
at which, the sage cou'd not from tears refrain:
and thus he cheers them. Honest friends, revive;
your future days, with better fortune, live:
your lives are granted; and, within this reed,
your speedy cure, whence'er you will, lies hid.
and you, whose blood turns pickle in your veins;
whose gouty legs are swell'd with searching pains:
your blood-shot Eyes (which scalding rheums o'erflow,
and your dull view confine) will weaker grow;
and, if assistance you refuse, be blind:
but, from my art, a perfect cure shall find.
then, in his hat a cloud of smoak he blows;
with which the old man's face he covers close:
within the brims, dilates the biting fume;
and clears his eyes from the pernicious rheum.
obediently, the while, he bears the pain;
hoping, from hence, his former sight to gain:
then, washing with his tears, his smarting eyes,
around him, clearer, every object spies.
now the light, freely, with a larger blaze,
through his washt casements, darts its brighter rays;
that, on his doctor's rugged nose, with ease,
he sees the ruby-like excrescencies:
for being askt, how many there he view'd,
and of what colour; first their number shew'd
his held-up fingers: then he smil'd, and said,
like our wood-strawberries, the bumps are red.
the jest with all the God's companions took;
and, with the rest, his sides Silenus shook.

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then,

then, turning to the man, thus, courteous, said:
 Friend, you deserve the utmost of my aid.
 from me, with lips contracted, learn to suck;
 and, through your widen'd nostrils, vent the smoak.
 strait he obeys; but soon its power perceives;
 the house turns round, and his sick stomach heaves:
 through every part, the searching atoms spread,
 his feet enervate, and confuse his head.
 for, on the floor, he now, unbidden, lies;
 whilst, from his stomach, nauseous crudities
 in vomits flow; and the mixt, fulsome food,
 he, by constraint, coop'd up, before, had chew'd.
 your cure, Silenus cries, this vomit proves;
 and the sad spring of all your pain removes:
 this twice perform; when Phoebe's chariot lies
 in heaven's high arch, obscur'd from mortal eyes;
 and, when her orb, renew'd, gives lustre to our skies.
 (the humors moving then; and, turgid, swells
 the moisture, springing from its secret cells)
 the fittest time, just after lightsome meals.
 thus when the cistern ceases to be foul,
 the juices, purg'd, in purer channels roll;
 through every pore their nutriment diffus'd,
 strengthen the joints, to manly sports disus'd:
 that you no more sharp pricking pains shall dread;
 or, with white swellings, have your joints o'erspread:
 but, with the nimblest satyrs, briskly run;
 and, at their revels, lead their dances on.
 yet, after all, shou'd some small spice remain
 of sharpening humors; and your wonted pain:
 by these moist fumes, you soon will be reliev'd;
 nor, as afore, have your dull senses griev'd.

Nor are they, only for the Gout, a cure;
 o'er Colick pains they have an equal power;
 and Twisted Guts, when through the mouth they vent
 the nauseous stinks, which, else, are downwards sent.
 large Swellings in the Head they soon appease;
 and bid the Ears their Tingling musick cease.
 so shall they find the herb, whose constant love
 their wives' invectives 'gainst it can't remove;

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that

that it the relish of their kisses spoils;
and, nauseously, their clean-rubb'd floors defiles.

Of ancient morals, nor yet too severe,
on a bleak winding shore, there dwelt a Seer;
where rag'd a new Disease: for whosoe'er,
unhappy, this infection us'd to share;
in their pierc'd bellies bore a grievous pain, 245
whose cutting throbs wou'd force them to complain:
which, soon as to the' extremities it reacht,
the limbs all stiffen'd, as with cords tight stretcht.
o'er this, the wit of men cou'd nought prevail;
their art, and all their hopes, together, fail.
among the rest, the Seer this illness caught;
and for a cure Apollo's aid besought: 250
the God, in vain, his wonted herbs apply'd;
the pain still rag'd, and all his arts defy'd:
till kinder fate, at length, prescrib'd a cure;
and, by Tobacco, heal'd the desperate sore.
he own'd the blessing, by whose constant aid,
a healthfull life, for many years, he led. 255
till then, a cure he never cou'd obtain;
the illness stopt awhile; wou'd rage again;
and, in his trembling joints, revive the searching pain.
by the pure steam the salts obtus'd, with ease,
glide through the nerves; and the sharp prickings cease.

So, at the root of an old Tooth decay'd, 260
when, from foul humor, gnawing pains are bred;
when the hot gums, with frequent throbings, ache;
and swell the shining surface of the cheek;
just like the ape's, when nuts, cramm'd thick within,
fill his wide jaws, and stretch the yielding skin:
in your clos'd mouths, awhile, the smoak contain;
the swelling 'twill allay; and, soon, remove the pain.

From other plagues, which Saltish Humors breed, 265
by help of this, the' afflicted body's freed:
when from the brain distill the hurtfull steams,
that on the Bellows pour their falling streams
(whose motion, still, preserves the feeble frame,
fanning with gentle blasts the vital flame)

in the mid space condens'd, abroad they're born,
 before the membrane of the lungs is worn.
 for Surfeits, or the Mumps, if right apply'd,
 or Dizzy Swimmings, that our feet misguide;
 with the dry sounding Nose, that threatens Rheum;
 relief is sure from the all-healing fume:
 if prudent care, in time, the med'cin tries,
 ere the strong ailment all its power defies.

270

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When, in the Hidden Parts, diseases reign;
 which thought, still, helps to aggravate the pain;
 whether the straining Gravel's nitrous tides
 cut the canals, through which the urin glides:
 or whether, loos'd, the passage open lies,
 through which the Stream, behind, impetuous flies:
 hence, hope a cure for both: you, who complain,
 when, frequent, on the pot you sit, with pain:
 and, you, whose pangs Prometheus well express,
 whilst horrid prickings your sad woes encrease.
 no Poet's dreams, the truth, I tell, obscure;
 who, lately, did myself these ills endure:
 till Paetum's leaf engag'd my eyes, and thought;
 which all its hidden virtues, curious, sought.
 while young (for, now, I freely may confess)
 I was too much addicted to excess;
 when Bacchus, and his Satyr's jovial crew,
 from reason's sway, my inclinations drew:
 from evil habits, o'er my body spread
 deep running sores; and various ills were bred:
 which, that I once have felt, is not amiss;
 though to have cur'd 'em far more usefull is:
 and, at my own expence grown wise, I joy,
 for other's health, my knowlege to employ.
 but since the body, from sad ails, to clear;
 and keep good habits, asks an equal care:
 be cautious; and, to use it, learn from me;
 for all things won't, alike, with all agree.

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The herb, as poison, naturally, some
 abhor; and swoon, with its strong scent o'ercome:
 it meets from others a too rash neglect,
 the common fate all novelty must expect;

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only

only because their fires in former times,
 (when wiser men were free from later crimes)
 led healthfull lives, by heaven's indulgent grant,
 ere to the world was shewn the usefull plant.
 let both of these abstain: for 'tis not right,
 'gainst nature, and her steady laws, to fight:
 nor yet, to make men wise against their will;
 and their weak minds, with better reasonings, fill.

300

Who loves the draughts, let wisdom not allow
 continually to blame, what others do;
 and rail at those, who cannot love them too.
 some take their pipe, as others take their glass,
 lest they shou'd not for boon-companions pass;
 whether 'tis good, or bad, the thing's the same:
 such clownish bashfullness deserves our blame.
 for, be assur'd, Tobacco's fumes bestow
 sickness, or health; then learn your selves to know:
 your constitutions thoroughly descry,
 and, if they can admit them safely, try:
 lest the too powerfull draughts your health destroy.

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The man, whose head with a large front is round;
 whose brawny shoulders with fat flesh abound;
 whose limbs are strong; and stomach open spread;
 and, in whose mouth, great store of moisture's bred;
 may safely, oft, the usefull draughts repeat
 with blest indulgence; as he thinks most fit;
 and eyes the' advantages, he thence may get.
 but, let the lean of such repasts beware,
 who have long scraggy necks; which lofty bear
 a narrow front, and a round little head;
 and, from whose hollow cheeks the flesh is fled;
 whose bony breasts, pincht up, in ridges lie;
 and whose thin sounding nostrills are too dry:
 for, as in such, of spirits a lesser train
 flow from their great receptacle, the brain;
 so mixing with the fume, they soon decay,
 like the sun's heat o'erpower'd in a thick misty day.
 when such the dangerous pipe, imprudent, take;
 their wearied limbs seek rest; their joints, all weak,
 as loos'd by crazy age, each morning shake:

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their fainting spirits with dullness are o'ercome ;
 and their long day unhealthfull naps consume.
 but, if, besides, a rosie colour's flush
 on their pale cheeks imprints a settled blush :
 if coughs consumptive shake the tender frame ;
 and quick-snatch'd breath scarce feeds the vital flame :
 such, I advise, the noxious fumes to fly ;
 leave their warm pipes ; and jovial company :
 lest, for their pleasures, they too dearly pay ;
 and smoak, and revel their short lives away.
 their lungs inflam'd, corruptive matter breed ;
 and, in the heart, a wasting fever feed.
 yet, if the pipe they, still, so much approve,
 that better reason yields to blinded love ;
 let them the Colt's-foot's healthier fumes exhale,
 which o'er the illness may in time prevail.
 for Colt's-foot's temperate heat will not encrease
 the raging fire ; but gently, by degrees,
 dry the foul humor up, and stop the sore disease.
 lastly, if any secret wastings grow
 from causes, which in vain we strive to know ;
 whether the plague, through all the body spread,
 infects each part ; or, gathering to a head,
 will shortly to a violent fever turn ;
 or, with a raging fire, your bowels burn :
 against such hurtfull pleasures wisely arm ;
 and shun, ah ! shun the sweet enticing charm :
 the warm enjoyment, though 'tis hard, forbear ;
 and, lest you hasten your own deaths, beware.

Whene'er the boiling blood's impetuous tide
 bursts a thin vein, profuse on every side ;
 and, threatening death, foul vomiting creates ;
 and with free passage opens the back-gates :
 whate'er the fates your doubtfull lot ordain,
 from the pernicious steams, awhile, abstain :
 for, hence, the vomitings more frequent grow ;
 and turgid streams of blood impetuous flow :
 till the supports of life at last decay,
 by the unbounded torrents swept away.

325

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But

But an objection in my way is thrown,
 which seems to pull my late-built fabrique down :
 for, if the drowzy herb to sleep inclines,
 and sleep with kindly chains the passage binds ;
 unjustly we the healing draughts traduce,

350

which, if apply'd, wou'd be of certain use.
 kindly the admonition I receive,
 nor, to unfold this difficulty, grieve :
 let those, that may thus artfully object,
 on what I taught, but carefully reflect ;
 against that fort, their powerfull batteries rear ;
 and their imagin'd strength will soon appear.
 for, as the salts, which through the compound run,
 like a sharp goad, spur tardy nature on :
 so, the sulphureous sleepy steams restrain,
 and curb its fury with a gentle rein.
 but, as unruly coursers, once let loose,
 bound o'er the plain ; and the hard bit refuse :
 so, when the washing driver violent flies,
 and all our art, to curb its rage, defies ;
 each small incentive still augments the bane,
 which, once let loose, 'tis difficult to restrain :
 and greater ills from such a motion flow,
 than all the sad restraints of nature know.
 so hard it is to time things right ; discern
 their proper use ; and different natures learn !
 virtue, and health, thus, keep an equal poize,
 too much, or yet too little, each, destroys.

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What's better than the Grape's delicious juice ?
 and yet even that has not a general use,
 nor every hour revives the heavy soul ;
 sad death sometimes lurks in the sparkling bowl :
 sometimes too large a draught does madness raise ;
 or fast asleep unactive reason lays,
 whilst heaven's bright lamp rowls o'er the aethereal plain,
 and to its rising east returns again.
 mean while, unless the surfeit is allay'd,
 the drunkard dies, or is imagin'd dead.

375

As once, great Bacchus, at thy sacred feast,
 with wine, and sleep, Adonis fell, oppress ;

380

the sorrowing Satyrs thought their fellow dead ;
 and, low in earth, his stretcht-out carcass laid :
 next day the coarse dug up, besmear'd with blood
 and brains, the signs of life recover'd show'd ;
 though, struggling with his legs and arms 'gainst death,
 in the close chest, he beat out his own breath.

385

but who can such a sad objection raise,
 to blast the salutary bowls, we praise ?
 by which unhurt, the mind still keeps its sway,
 though many ills may threaten its decay.

When the full board with frequent cups is crown'd,
 and healths in bumpers take the jovial round ;
 whoever rashly dares the rights profane
 of mirth ; and riot, and excess maintain :
 lest he, regardless, share the drunkard's fate,
 a muddled brain, and an unsteady gate ;
 let him but take the medicinal reed,
 and mix, with Wine's, Tobacco's purer seed ;
 with looks compos'd, he shall the banquet leave,
 and his clear thoughts a ready utterance give :
 whilst, of the charm unknowing, all the rest
 shall roll their aking eyes, with sleep oppress'd ;
 unsteady walk, ridiculous their gate,
 and mirth in all observant eyes create.

390

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for the bland vapor quenches, and allays
 the raging fire, wine's sharper spirits raise.
 nor let, great Bacchus, that your envy gain,
 by which your favorite vines more praise attain ;
 no greater sympathetique virtue has
 the loadstone to attract its kindred mass ;
 than is between Tobacco, and the Vine ;
 of most advantage when their steams they join.

400

The plant, on man by bounteous heaven bestow'd,
 is, like the slaughter'd swine, all over good.
 for, purg'd by fire, the ashes, that remain,
 from nauseous scurf the yellow teeth will clean,
 whiter, than falling showers of winter's frozen rain.
 its smoak, a thing unknown in former days,
 your orders not to evaporate, obeys ;

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through your clos'd lips, then strain the thickning fumes,
 and in your hand a yellow ointment comes;
 of use peculiar to the tender maid,
 o'er whose chapt hand, an itching tetter's spread:
 it heals, and smooths the pimpled running sores;
 and, to its native white, the flesh restores.
 yet her reviving beauty costs her dear,
 for, through the skin diffus'd, the piercing air
 shakes her sick heart; her stomach-bands unbinds;
 and gives a passage to unfavoury winds:
 her youthfull friends sport at her present pains,
 whence health returning swells her rising veins;
 and beauty, reinthron'd, destructive power maintains.

415

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Its blessings all explor'd, I'll next declare
 what harms may from its use mankind deter;
 which, whether really true, or false they be,
 in a short view you presently shall see.
 the steam, some say, that to the brain ascends,
 to the destruction of the fancy tends;
 with black oblivion breaks the' ideal chain;
 confounds the rays of wit; and vanquishes the brain:
 a heinous crime! but, what base calumny,
 has only feign'd; or good simplicity:
 it is not so, because it cannot be.
 for, since the mind immortal essence shares,
 and, sprung from heaven, unbody'd substance wears;
 it can't be subject to those various ills,
 which, but too oft, the grosser body feels:
 indeed sometimes the ill, which that endures,
 the actings of the mind, awhile, obscures;
 yet, all that time, the mind itself remains
 uninjur'd, and her wonted sway maintains;
 whose uselefs beams, though darksome shades confine,
 yet, unobserv'd, with inward lustre shine.
 so, when the rays of bright Apollo's star
 are intercepted by his Sister's car;
 or when his face with some thick cloud is veil'd;
 a while he wanders from our eyes conceal'd:
 yet, all that while, the' unfully'd orb is bright,
 and worlds of stars receive its spreading light.

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nought stains the heavenly mind, but its own vice; 440
 whence luxury, and vain desires arise,
 feeble inconstancy, and boundless ire;
 which dull the brain, and choak up reason's fire;
 the usefull stores, it once laid in, displace;
 confound their order; and their names erase.
 For it retains, what only, in review,
 may a fresh sense of gratefull joys renew. 445

For every one that smokes, I'll instance ten
 of those, who from the sober draughts abstain;
 that, where their bags of money lie, forget;
 or what is ow'd them from another's debt;
 or their kind mistresses frequented gate:
 whose very names are to themselves unknown,
 and even the work they yesterday had done;
 nay yet even more, what they acquir'd when young,
 the usefull elements of their mother tongue. 450
 doubtless, some poison, or fierce fever's heat,
 or sudden, dangerous, apopleptic fit,
 or raging fires, that hoary heads engage
 to reap the pleasures of their youth, in age;
 cause this disorder in the affected brain;
 and, to his infant state, reduce the man:
 nor can the soul, its seat once ruin'd, stay;
 but, to its kindred skies, directs its way. 455

But, if Tobacco's steams the mind annoy,
 and its retentive faculty destroy;
 why shou'd the learn'd; and wise, the plant approve;
 and court their honor's ruin, by their love?
 who, by their prying reason, have attain'd
 to whate'er human wisdom can pretend: 460
 whose chief delight, is, such observes to hoard,
 as to the souls may health, and peace, afford;
 and then to listning crowds unfold the store,
 they, cautiously, had treasur'd up, before.

But buxome dames, thus, mournfully, complain,
 that the chaff seeds love's pleasing rage restrain;
 as Agnus-castus, their aversion, coy;
 and disappoints the hasty lover's joy. 465

a female

a female ill: for men wou'd rather praise,
 what the cariere of this fierce passion stays.
 nor do the murmuring sex, but now, complain;
 their hatred of the sleepy charm began,
 when first Love's Goddess did her isles forbid,
 Cyprus, and Paphos, to import the weed;
 whose chilling nature might with hemlock vie;
 o'erthrow her worship; and her rites destroy. 470
 for, at a banquet of the powers above,
 when you, Twice-born, reveal'd the leaf to Jove;
 which, first discover'd in this happy soil,
 crown'd with success your more than mortal toil:
 Jove smil'd; and, first, a reed aetherial took,
 in which, a God might, well, vouchsafe to smoak.
 his great example fires the Deities,
 from whose wide nostrills, curling clouds arise;
 and, Aetna-like, obscure the azure skies. }
 each Goddess, pleas'd, the novelty admires,
 the clouds of smoak; and leaf consuming fires:
 but sleepy bridegrooms, and a joyless night,
 on the chaste plant, their quick revenge incite.
 with one consent, they banish it their heaven;
 and vow Thessalian rites shou'd thence be driven.
 when, soon as ere, next day, the herb appears,
 and each immortal his long reed prepares,
 enrag'd, bright Venus to the table flies, 480
 seizes the prey; and hurls it from the skies:
 whilst wondring Gods admire, what cause cou'd move
 such fury in the gentle Queen of Love.
 thus Venus rag'd: but Jove's great daughter, fair,
 who chases o'er the lawns the bounding deer;
 the Warrior Virgin, and the Tunefull Nine, 485
 to gather up the scatter'd reliques, join;
 and beg, that Bacchus new supplies wou'd grant
 to them, of their chaste vow-affisting plant.

A mighty scandal, sure, that it the rage
 shou'd of fierce passion, and mad lust assuage;
 the maid's nice honor, chastity, maintain;
 give vigor to the limbs; and empire to the brain: 490

for

for it, like Gallow-grafs, pernicious weed,
 does not the joys of mutual love forbid ;
 or, like the Water-lily's banefull cold,
 the blessings of the teeming womb withhold ;
 perhaps it may abate the number ; yet
 love, so restrain'd, does this advantage get,
 a beauteous issue, though not quite so great.
 a blessing this ; when the poor laboring Swain
 has not a numerous family to maintain ;
 or, when the State, brave spirits rather grace,
 than a large, rude, unthinking populace.
 even youth, and age it self, by means of thee,
 blest herb, preserve a wise frugality ;
 whilst thy pure fumes allay lust's early rage,
 and the warm glowing ember's heat assuage ;
 like water, coole, and temperate the fire ;
 calme the fierce passions of ill-tim'd desire ;
 and the whole world, by its chaste, gentle, charm,
 from this mad epidemic vice reform.

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500

Nor yet, ye Matrons, the cold herb refuse,
 in your misfortunes, too, it has its use.
 when the unsettled Womb its bounds defies,
 and through its fence a passage upwards tries ;
 or, swell'd with wind, the Lights, disorder'd, rise :
 'twill sooner press each to its wonted seat,
 than a large pig of lead ; or two men's weight.

505

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510

Besides, the' all-fruitfull earth, except the vine,
 for Age, no better dainty can assign.
 whether decaying nature's fresh supplies
 from cherishing the inbred moisture, rise ;
 or, mingling with the brain, the warm allay
 drives all the senses' enemies away.

515

it drains the scakling rheum from watry eyes ;
 and, the nose, dull'd with too much moisture, dries ;
 till, from a sprightlier sense, the man grows wise.
 besides the' ungratefull music in the ear
 is silenc'd by the penetrative air ;
 so, that the mind, far more distinctly, hoards
 the wise man's reasonings, and instructive words :

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520

whilst

whilst sweet discourse beguiles the tedious day ;
and makes the irksome hours seem short, and gay.

Whoe'er, with aking bones, and sleepless nights,
pays for his youth's immoderate delights ;
here, also, may receive a quick relief,
which will, an end to his just sufferings, give.

525

the friendly steam, that spreads through every vein,
shan't only ease the violence of his pain ;
but, with delightfull dreams, contract his night ;
and lively objects set before his sight.

not such, with which black melancholy's height,
Lentils, or Onions, Beans, and Pease affright.

530

Whoe'er on Henbane, or strong Garlick feeds,
or Banewort, deadly all, and poisonous weeds,
shall, in his sleep, with great perplexity,
strange shows, and various sorts of phantoms see ;
which ar'n't in nature, nor will ever be.

}

foul Harpies, swimming on the treacherous main ;
huge Centaurs, flying through the' aetherial plain ;
thick troops of Dragons from the earth arise ;
and Devils, breathing fire, amidst the skies.

535

now, in a sudden storm, he, struggling, seems
just buried in the sea's outrageous streams ;
when, panting, midst the troubled waves, he swims ;
and plies with vigorous strokes his active limbs.
now, whilst he, headlong, rolls from a steep rock
into the sea, it echoes with the shock.

540

now, set upon by thieves, his life's at stake :
now, a fierce boar from his strong hold does break ;
whets his huge tusks ; and runs at him amain ;
for help, he cries aloud ; but cries in vain ;
then sighs, till fear, at last, his slumber breaks ;
and, in the very jaws of death, he wakes :
amaz'd, he scarce believes it but a dream,
and a cold sweat bedews each trembling limb.

545

But, with far different sights, our night is blest ;
when Paetum's fumes compose our happier rest :
a natural scene, then, rises to our view ;
or what our inclinations most pursue.

for

for every man's particular delight,
 or business of the day, returns at night.
 nor show the objects to his doubting eyes,
 uncertain, as fair Phæbe's silver rise,
 through vapors, spreading o'er the eastern skies:
 but to his sense so vividly appear,
 that, what he sees, he fancies really are.
 the decent Orator his gesture frames;
 and, with his speech, the' attentive ear enflames.
 oft, in his sleep, the thoughtfull Poët writes
 what, the next morning, clearly he recites:
 'tis so with Others too; who can't believe
 that dreams, such lively images, shou'd give;
 or that cold death, and sleep can be the same,
 which are akin, no nearer, than by name.

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These fumes, not like the deadly Poppy, bind
 in-iron chains the dull, unactive, mind;
 or like the doubtfull Hemlock's influence,
 in slender fetters, captivate each sense;
 which neither suffers us to wake, or sleep;
 but, in a gentle doze, the soul entranc'd does keep.
 so Baucis, and the Partner of her bed,
 having, by chance, on the curst herbage fed;
 which, from the fields they dug, and by its look,
 for Parsnip's leaf, or the known Parsly took:
 on a low bed their wearied limbs reclin'd,
 whence, not awake, nor yet to sleep resign'd,
 they rose; the woman, first; and, next, the man;
 and, naked, round their little hovel, ran,
 mov'd by a strange delirium; in their way,
 though cumbrous logs of new-fell'd timber lay:
 'gainst which much bruise'd, they both to bed repair;
 and screen their bodies from the piercing air.
 but, whoso sleep, from Paetum's leaf, invite,
 enjoy the pleasure of a quiet night;
 wakefull they rise; and, early, the next morn,
 to their accusom'd business, fresh, return:
 if 'tis the best they take, which no deceit,
 or art, by baser mixture, counterfeit.

565

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580

for,

for, the same good, not all Tobacco yields:
 the generous growths, that, purest, grace the fields,
 bear a rough, brownish leaf, that shades the ground;
 whose gratefull odor spreads itself around,
 like Violets; or the Root, in fair Etruria found.
 and, like the wary Beaver's-stone, it tastes;
 or strong Asphaltus, as, by fire, it wastes.

}

The smaller sort, like what fresh Autumn yields,
 in warm Virginia, or Bermuda's fields,
 fit only for your slaves; reject the bane,
 which hurts the eyes; and stupifies the brain:
 who tastes of this, shall find a heavy sloth
 hang on his limbs; and gaping stretch his mouth:
 and, by the fire (unless sharp hunger's pains
 rouse up the wretch, and break dull Morpheus' chains)
 stretcht out, at ease, he'll, listlessly, delight,
 till day draws near, to snore away the night.
 Ye sacred Offspring of the Nine, who pore,
 watchfull, on books, for wisdom's precious oar;
 taste not, but seize the ill-attempted cheat;
 and, to the flames, the huckster's hopes commit.

590

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600

Some mix the odorous Goat's pernicious gore
 with the choice traffic, brought from India's shore:
 which, some with Fennel, or fat Anise juice,
 or the more common Copperas, abuse:
 each, on the tongue, a gratefull sweetness leaves,
 such, as the Sugar-cane of Lybia gives;
 pernicious though. whoever wou'd pretend,
 by art, deficient nature to amend;
 unless, he well consults her sage advice,
 vain is his labor, which her work destroys.
 but yet, if you wou'd aggrandize its praise,
 in the full pipe, a little Aloes place;
 'twill scent the whole; and, through the hollow cane,
 convey refreshing odors to the brain.
 these draughts must, too, be, carefully, withstood,
 just after meals of undigested food;
 the loaded stomach, else, its work fore-goes;
 and half-masht morsels, down its channel throws;

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which

which pain the belly; rouse a rumbling wind:
unfit ye for the pleasing hours assign'd,
for thought, or toil; and prey upon the mind.

how you, uncover'd, in the open air,
or, in an empty chimney, smoak; beware:
'tis hurtfull. for the cold, athwart the skin,
cuts the wide pores; and penetrating in,
weakens the tender-fibres of the head:

whence, heaviness, and shivering pains are bred.

Nor, must ye, without intermission, know
this pleasure only; and luxurious grow;
stuffing, beyond a due regard, the brain:
alternate cups a better health maintain.

alternate numbers too, the Muses prize;
and cautious nature, from a surfeit, flies.

soon, as the muddled head begins to swim,
the warning take; and urge no more the steam:

but, shou'd it last, a draught of table beer
will soon relieve you, or the cooling air:

a little art the tumult will allay;

and the approaching danger, gently, stay.

with caution use the plant; and, soon as ere

you know what portion your head best can bear;

within the bounds prescrib'd, securely, run;

nor, further, urge the dangerous pleasure on:

and know, that whosoe'er these rules obeys,

shall wisely, crown, with health, his happy days.

Thus sung the jocund Sage: the while, around,

the listning Heroes, seated on the ground,

their due respect, in close attention, paid

to what, the well-experienc'd Chieftain said;

instructed in its virtues, still they want

a fresh recruit of the all-healing plant;

their barren lands, to know, how to prepare;

and, from the seed, a progeny to rear:

but spent with thirst, and more inclin'd to rest;

his broken accents scarce his thoughts express:

a swinging draught he took; then, snoring loud,

fell fast asleep, amid the' expecting crowd.

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640

Yet,

Yet, asking leave, we purpose to go on,
though tir'd; to finish, what the sage began;
and, to its lovers, faithfully explain,
how, best, to cultivate the usefull grain.

If, ere you hope, a plentifull encrease
thou'd crown your harvest; and your labors bless:
let the fat seed (which generous sprouts produce,
whose thick, long, leaves abound with healthy juice;
not slips, that from the middle sickly shoot;
but, what spring up immediate from the root)
be your first care. the next, a proper soil;
whose products, amply, may reward your toil.
your poor, mean, ground scarce keeps the plant alive,
which, in a hearty glebe, can only thrive;
such, as the vine requires: a hilly ground,
and fields, where Phoebus spreads his beams around,
bespeak your choice; where the earth's lightly spread;
not, where the heavy marl resists the spade;
nor where the clay binds up the mould; nor yet
a mossy ground; or where the soil is wet.

And, if a plenteous harvest be your aim,
though the land's good; yet, sow not twice the same;
for the first growth its mother's strength destroys,
whose barren womb a second race denies.
seek other grounds; and by the' insatiate guest.
let a new place be, every year, possesst;
while, wrapt in ease, the wearied furrow lies,
and fatning dung recruits of strength supplies.

Of such a soil possesst; then, be your care,
for the rich seed's reception to prepare.
the earth, in rows, at proper spaces, bore;
and, in each hole, sling three small grains, or more;
so, that, alike, each future leaf may share
an equal vigor, from the genial air.
but, if by chance, some fall to mice a prey,
or moles, that mine through earth their gloomy way;
or, if your gain's in some few husks suppressst;
yet hope a good return from all the rest.
if plenty smiles luxurious on the year,
and thronging stalks each other's growth impair;

soon, as from earth, the frequent nations rise,
 practise the wary Thracian cruelties.
 their numbers thinn; and, in the mourning cleft,
 let only one, of many roots, be left;
 which, in a larger space, may better thrive;
 and, from its nurse's breast, full nourishment derive.

But, when the earth, in its due season, gives
 strength to the stem, and rankness to the leaves;
 the sprouts superfluous, round the bottom, lop,
 that better health may flourish at the top:
 which, for its goodness prais'd, the rest shall shame;
 and, as its right, the palm, in justice claim.
 yet, hasten not your harvest, ere the time:
 the generous vintage glories in its prime,
 soon, as the seed assumes a darker shade;
 and the bright-coulor'd leaves begin to fade;
 then, let your tools, and sickles, be prepar'd;
 and, of your labor, reap the just reward.

Implore a season, may befriend your gain:
 for the broad leaves no more can wet sustain,
 than the ripe Grape's, September's drizzling rain.
 then mow the field: so half your toil expires;
 yet, what remains, an equal care requires:
 for all your nice endeavors have been vain,
 the' advantage of the soil, and precious grain;
 unless, with diligence, 'tis manag'd right,
 that its appearance please, at last, the sight.

Here, then, two things observe: the herbage dry,
 lest the moist leaves, shou'd, stinking, putrify;
 which from the heat, that in the oil lies hid,
 to mollify the tast, must next be freed.
 and lest the sun, exhaling, shou'd consume
 its spirituous life; in a wide airy room,
 hung on a string, let the leaves dry awhile;
 which, after on the floor together, pile:
 that so the heats, below collected, may
 an equal virtue through the heap convey.
 Thus laid, at first, they'll glow with pregnant heat;
 when swell in every part; and recking sweat;

and,

and, if not pull'd asunder, fire the room,
like new-made Hay, ere dry'd enough, brought home;
disperse the leaves; and hang them up; and then
strow them in heaps about the floor again;
nor from your labor start; but persevere,
till you, no more, the former danger fear:
whilst the warm vapors, all their strength diffuse
through every pore; and fit the leaves for use.

But to do this, a wise experience needs;
for nature in a medium best succeeds:
too little, or too much, alike, is bad;
yet soon a cure for either may be had:
not from sweet Honey; or the streams of Wine;
much less from nauseous Chamber-lye; or Brine:
(such as to make it smell, the Huckster tries,
who, more than other's health, its scent does prize)
but, from itself, a safer help demand.

from those few leaves, which, erst, escap'd your hand,
press the green juice; and let them, in a pot,
froth up a foam, awhile; and keep them hot:
plac'd in a vat with these, the damag'd ware
will soon its feeble strength, with youth, repair.

This shall suffice: now hast the ships away,
to distant climes, the blessing to convey;
with wealth, the vintage shall the Farmer bless;
its custom King's revenues shall encrease;
and raise the Merchant's gain. the Doctor sees
from hence, perhaps, a less'ning of his fees;
bewails a healthy year; and hopes, in vain,
a sickly autumn, and his wonted gain.
perhaps too, from the gallows, it bestows
a banquet, now, and then, for ravenous crows:
when idle Sots to purchase it agree,
unmindfull of approaching poverty;
who, idly busied, thus mispend the day;
and, careless, puff their precious hours away:
but, whilst the Frugal, and the Sober too,
hence health receive; let the unthinking crew
meet the just fate, they eagerly pursue.

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 an equal virtue through the heap convey. 700
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 then swell in every part; and reeking sweat;
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hence health receive; let the unthinking crew
meet the just fate, they eagerly pursue.

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may

may those the blessing want, who health refuse ;
but not be able to destroy its use !

He (whom, a Chancery-suit, the bane of life ;
a ship at sea ; or an unruly wife ;
a pressing dun ; or violent disease
deprives of sleep, and robs his mind of ease)
shall, where he owes his sweet refreshments, own ;
and, in return, the leaf's defects make known.

735

Whate'er invectives any one may frame
against the herb, to prejudice its name ;
to rolling seas, and winds we shall commit,
nor here the senseless ribaldry repeat.
but, if a lover of the truth there be,
who cannot with our sentiments agree ;
let him, with reason, manage the dispute ;
and, if he can, our arguments confute.

THE END.



